



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

June 4, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: WEST COAST BASIN BARRIER PROJECT
CONDITION ASSESSMENT
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to award and authorize entering into a consultant services agreement with CH₂M Hill to perform a condition assessment of the West Coast Basin Barrier Project.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

Award and delegate authority to the Acting Chief Engineer or his designee, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, to enter into a consultant services agreement with CH₂M Hill to perform a condition assessment of the West Coast Basin Barrier Project for a not-to-exceed fee of \$185,500. Funds for this project are available in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Flood Control District Budget. Under a previously executed agreement, the West Basin Municipal Water District and the Water Replenishment District of Southern California will reimburse the Department of Public Works for approximately one-third of the cost each to perform the study, up to \$54,000 each.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to conduct a condition assessment of the West Coast Basin Barrier Project (WCBBP). The WCBBP consists of a water supply pipeline distribution system, valves, and over 153 injection wells that pump water into the underground aquifer to prevent seawater from contaminating the potable water supply. The WCBBP has been in operation since 1953. Recent system failures, which resulted in portions of the barrier being inoperable for periods of time, have clearly identified a need to assess the overall condition of the barrier. The condition assessment will evaluate the current state of the WCBBP infrastructure and recommend repairs, improvements, and measures to prevent future shutdowns in an effort to protect our underground water supply from seawater intrusion. The Department of Public Works (Public Works) will come back to your Board to request approval to implement any projects that may arise as a result of this assessment.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we provide Service Excellence (Goal 1) by improving operations of infrastructure to better serve the public and Fiscal Responsibility (Goal 4) by utilizing, in part, external funding sources. External contributory funds will reimburse Public Works for two-thirds of the cost to perform the study.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

This consultant services agreement is for a not-to-exceed fee of \$185,500, which includes \$24,243 for contingencies that may arise during progress of the work. Funding for this contract is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Flood Control District Budget. Additional work within this allowance will not be performed without prior written authorization from the Acting Chief Engineer or his designee.

On March 11, 2008, your Board authorized the Acting Chief Engineer or his designee to enter into a cooperative agreement with the West Basin Municipal Water District (WBMWD) and the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) to perform a condition assessment of the WCBBP. Under this agreement, WBMWD and WRD will reimburse Public Works for approximately one-third of the cost each to perform the assessment, up to \$54,000 each. The Los Angeles County Flood Control District will fund up to \$77,500 of the assessment cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with the terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN and GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

A standard consultant services agreement, previously approved as to form by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced County employees will be included.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On March 11, 2008, your Board found that this project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines. This exemption provides for feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions, which have not been approved, adopted, or funded.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On October 15, 2007, Public Works, acting on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, issued Request for Proposals (RFP) to 25 firms to evaluate the condition of the water supply lines, valves, and connections associated with the WCBBP. CH₂M Hill was the sole respondent to the RFP. An evaluation committee,

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comprised of staff from Public Works, evaluated the proposal and determined that CH₂M Hill is qualified to provide the required services. The evaluation was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. The evaluation was completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this contract opportunity was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. CH₂M Hill is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The condition assessment will evaluate the WCBBP infrastructure and recommend repairs and improvements to improve Public Works' infrastructure and protect our groundwater supply from seawater intrusion.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:DDE
RHK:vr

c: County Counsel
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)
Department of Public Works (Architectural Engineering, Flood Maintenance,
Watershed Management)